

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 9, line 29, with the following rewritten paragraph:

-- The present invention provides a number of intimate blend fabrics useful for applications involving articles of apparel utilized for rugged outerwear and sporting wear, in which improved puncture, cut, and tear resistance is desired over typical articles of apparel for such purposes known in the prior art. An "intimate blend fabric" as used herein refers to a fabric including therein at least two different types of fibers, and in some instances a plurality of different types of fibers, wherein the different types of fibers are each present in a single layer of the fabric (or in at least one single layer of the fabric system for fabric systems having multiple layers), such that each fiber type is in direct and intimate contact with fibers of at least one other type within the fabric layer. An "intimate blend" yarn or fiber bundle, similarly refers to a yarn or fiber bundle including therein at least two different types of fibers, and in some instances a plurality of different types of fibers, such that each fiber type is in direct and intimate contact with fibers of at least one other type within the yarn or fiber bundle, and each fiber is oriented substantially normal to a cross section of the yarn or fiber bundle. --

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 21, line 22, with the following rewritten paragraph:

-- For example, as illustrated in the cross-sectional view of FIG. 3, one or both of fiber bundles 42 or 44 can consist essentially of high tenacity staple fibers 46 while the other fiber bundle (42, as illustrated) can consist essentially of staple fibers 48 of a low tenacity, non-high tenacity material, or, a different high tenacity fiber than fiber 46 of fiber bundle 44. In some embodiments, it is preferred that the individual fiber bundles twisted to form the plied yarn be plied together to form the yarn with a secondary ply twist of at least about 1/4 that of the primary twist of the fiber bundles, in other embodiments of at least about 1/2 that of the primary twist of the fiber bundles, and in other embodiments of at least about equal to that of the primary twist of the fiber bundles. However, as one of ordinary skill in the art can readily appreciate from Fig. 3B,

the fibers 46, 48 remain oriented substantially normal to a cross section of the yarn 40. In addition, as discussed above, in order to increase the mechanical stability and weavability of the fiber bundles and/or yarns comprising any of the woven fabrics provided according to the invention, the yarns and/or fiber bundles of the fabrics, and especially those utilized to form the warp yarns, which are subjected to greater weaving stresses during fabric construction, can be treated with a variety of well-known adhesive sizes, for example, including, but not limited to, polymers such as polyvinyl alcohol, polystyrene, polyacrylic acid, polyacetates, starches, etc.--